

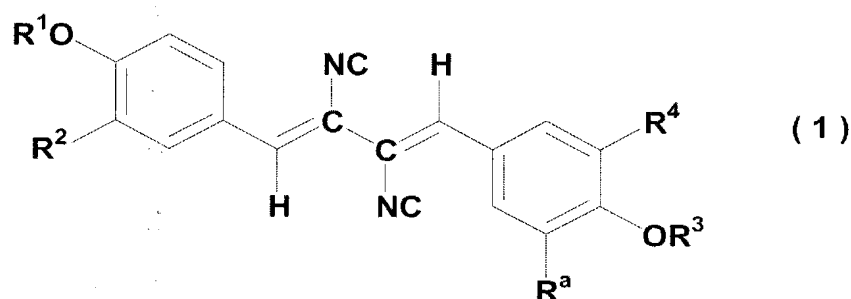
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of increasing platelets in a human having a disease selected from the group consisting of thrombocytopenia caused by bone marrow transplantation, thrombocytopenia caused by surgery, thrombocytopenia caused by infection, thrombocytopenia caused by gastrointestinal bleeding, aplastic anemia, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, myelodysplastic syndrome, and thrombopoietin deficiency in need thereof, the method comprising

administering an isolated compound or its salt to the human in need thereof in an amount sufficient to increase the platelets in the human in need thereof,

wherein the isolated compound or its salt is represented by the formula (1) or its salt,



wherein each of R¹ and R³ is independently a hydrogen atom, SO₃H, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group or a C₆₋₁₈ arylcarbonyl group, and

wherein each of R², R⁴ and R^a is independently a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group;

wherein the C₁₋₆ alkyl group, the C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group and the C₆₋₁₈ arylcarbonyl group may be optionally substituted with

a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl group, a C₆₋₁₈ aryl group, a 2-pyridyl

group, a 3-pyridyl group, a 4-pyridyl group, a 2-furanyl group, a 3-furanyl group, a 2-thienyl group, a 3-thienyl group or NR^9R^{10} , wherein the C_{6-18} aryl group, the 2-pyridyl group, the 3-pyridyl group, the 4-pyridyl group, the 2-furanyl group, the 3-furanyl group, the 2-thienyl group and the 3-thienyl group may be optionally substituted with

a halogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group,

wherein each of R^9 and R^{10} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group or R^9 and R^{10} mean, together with each other, $-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{X}(\text{CH}_2)_m-$, wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with

a C_{6-18} aryl group

wherein X is $\text{CR}^{11}\text{R}^{12}$, NR^{13} , O or S,

wherein each of R^{11} and R^{12} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group, wherein R^{13} is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group that may be optionally substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group,

wherein n is 1, 2 or 3, and m is 1, 2 or 3, provided that $n+m$ is 3, 4 or 5,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with

a C_{6-18} aryl group,

wherein R^{13} is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group, and

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with

a C_{6-18} aryl group.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein in the isolated compound of or its salt that is administered to the human ~~in need thereof~~,

each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom, SO_3H , a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group or a C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group, and

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group, the C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and the C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group may be optionally substituted with

a hydroxyl group.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein in the isolated compound of or its salt that is administered to the human ~~in need thereof~~,

each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom, SO_3H , a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group or a C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group, the C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and the C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group may be optionally substituted with NR^9R^{10} ,

wherein each of R^9 and R^{10} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or R^9 and R^{10} mean, together with each other, -
 $(CH_2)_nX(CH_2)_m$ -,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted
with a C_{6-18} aryl group,

wherein X is $CR^{11}R^{12}$, NR^{13} , O or S ,

wherein n is 1, 2 or 3, and m is 1, 2 or 3, provided that
 $n+m$ is 3, 4 or 5[[]],

wherein each of R^{11} and R^{12} is independently a
hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally
substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group,

wherein R^{13} is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group, and
wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein in the isolated compound of or its salt that is administered to the human ~~in need thereof~~, each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 4, wherein in the isolated compound ~~of Claim 4~~ or its salt that is administered to the human ~~in need thereof~~,
each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and
each of R^2 and R^4 is independently a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or a methoxy group.

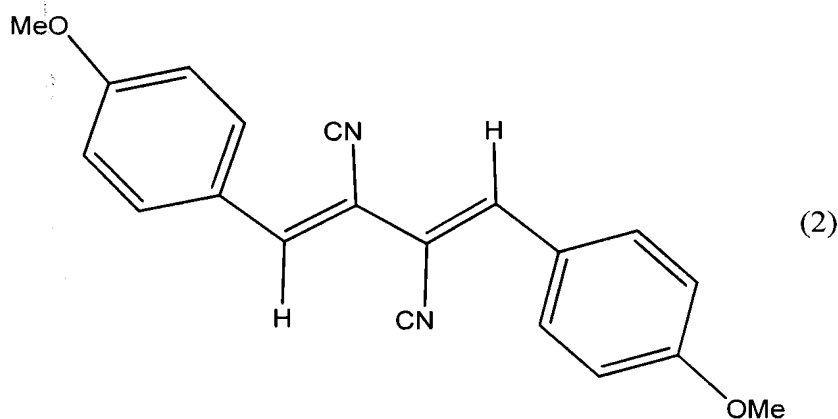
Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 1, Claim 2, Claim 3, Claim 4 or Claim 5, wherein in the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human ~~in need thereof~~, R^2 is a hydrogen atom.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 6, wherein in the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human ~~in need thereof~~, each of R^4 and R^a is independently a hydrogen atom or a methoxy group.

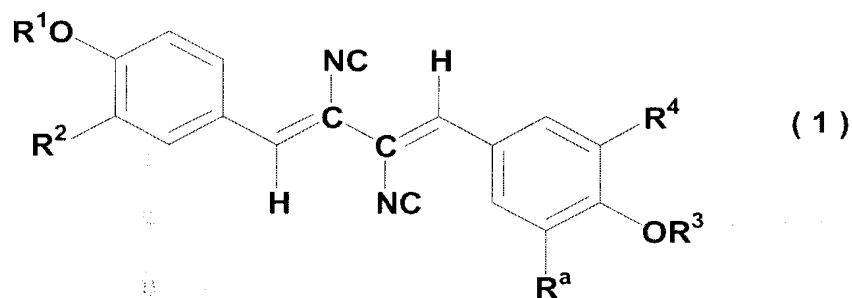
Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human in need thereof is administered as a composition comprising the isolated compound of formula (1) or its salt and an excipient.

Claims 9-25 (Cancelled).

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 1, wherein the compound or its salt of formula (1) does not comprise a compound or its salt of formula (2):



Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A method of increasing platelets in a human, the method comprising
administering an isolated compound or its salt to the human in an amount sufficient to increase the platelets in the human,
wherein the isolated compound or its salt is
represented by the formula (1) or its salt,



wherein each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom, SO_3H , a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group or a C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group, and
 wherein each of R^2 , R^4 and R^a is independently a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or a C_{1-6} alkoxy group;

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group, the C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and the C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group may be optionally substituted with

a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group, a C_{6-18} aryl group, a 2-pyridyl group, a 3-pyridyl group, a 4-pyridyl group, a 2-furanyl group, a 3-furanyl group, a 2-thienyl group, a 3-thienyl group or NR^9R^{10} ,

wherein the C_{6-18} aryl group, the 2-pyridyl group, the 3-pyridyl group, the 4-pyridyl group, the 2-furanyl group, the 3-furanyl group, the 2-thienyl group and the 3-thienyl group may be optionally substituted with

a halogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group,

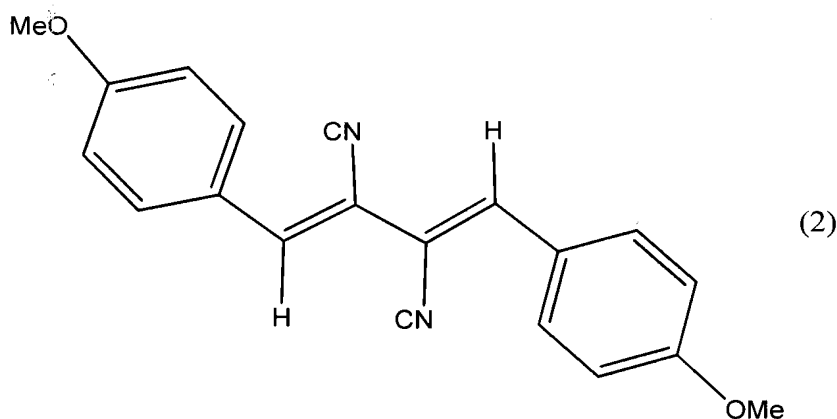
wherein each of R^9 and R^{10} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group or
 R^9 and R^{10} mean, together with each other, $-(CH_2)_nX(CH_2)_m-$,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with

a C_{6-18} aryl group

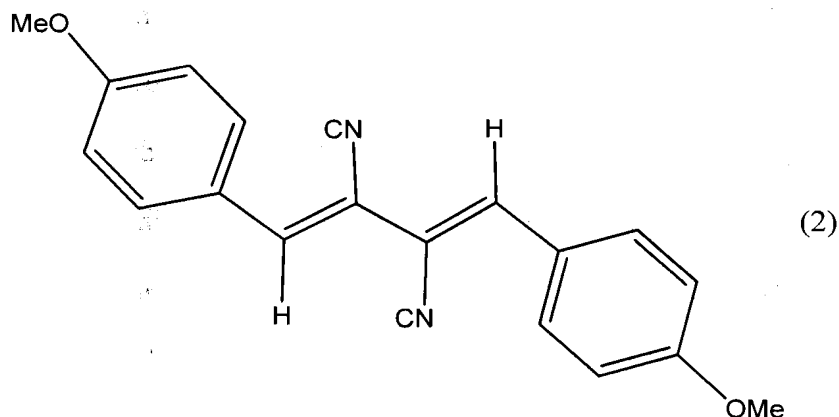
wherein X is $CR^{11}R^{12}$, NR^{13} , O or S,

wherein each of R^{11} and R^{12} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group, wherein R^{13} is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group that may be optionally substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group,
wherein n is 1, 2 or 3, and m is 1, 2 or 3, provided that $n+m$ is 3, 4 or 5,
wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group,
wherein R^{13} is a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group,
wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group,
with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt



Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 27, wherein in the isolated compound of or its salt that is administered to the human,
each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom, SO_3H , a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group or a C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group,
wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group, the C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and the C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group may be optionally substituted with a hydroxyl group,

with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt



Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 27, wherein in the isolated compound of or its salt that is administered to the human,

each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom, SO_3H , a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group or a C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group, the C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and the C_{6-18} arylcarbonyl group may be optionally substituted with NR^9R^{10} ,

wherein each of R^9 and R^{10} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or R^9 and R^{10} mean, together with each other, -
 $(CH_2)_nX(CH_2)_m$,

wherein the C_{1-6} alkyl group may be optionally substituted with a C_{6-18} aryl group,

wherein X is $CR^{11}R^{12}$, NR^{13} , O or S,

wherein n is 1, 2 or 3, and m is 1, 2 or 3, provided that $n+m$ is 3, 4 or 5,

wherein each of R^{11} and R^{12} is independently a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-6} alkyl group,

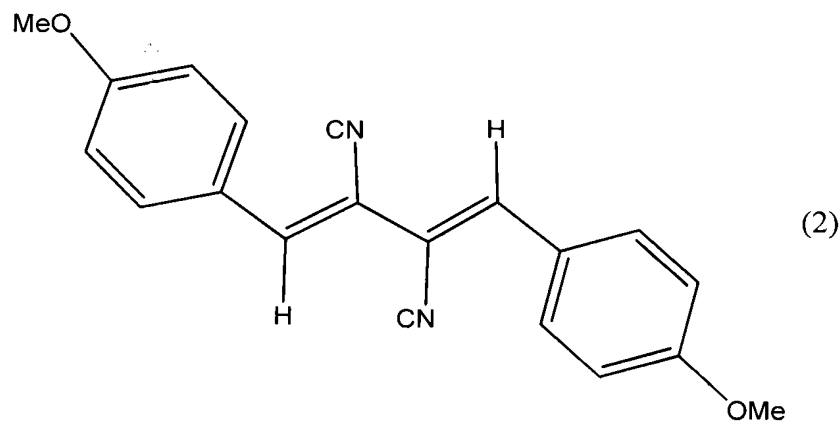
wherein the C₁₋₆ alkyl group may be optionally

substituted with a C₆₋₁₈ aryl group,

wherein R¹³ is a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, and

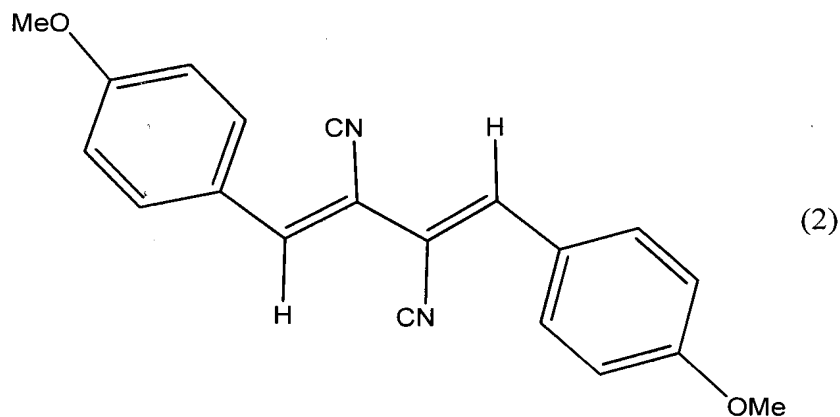
wherein the C₁₋₆ alkyl group may be optionally substituted with a C₆₋₁₈ aryl group,

with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt



Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 27, wherein in the isolated compound of or its salt that is administered to the human, each of R¹ and R³ is independently a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₆ alkyl group,

with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt

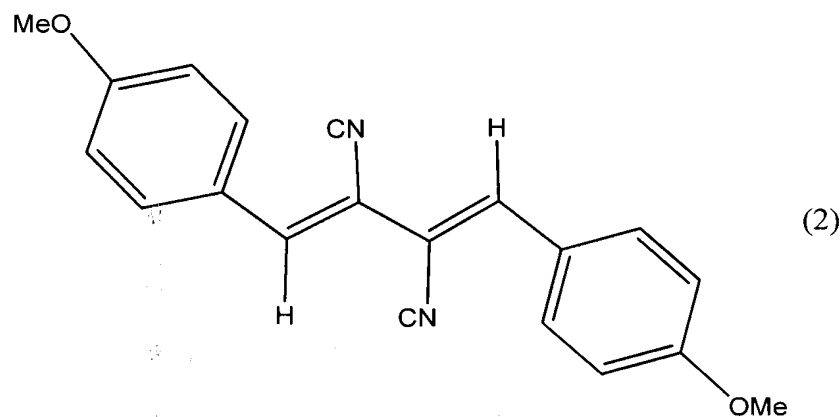


Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 30, wherein in the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human,

each of R^1 and R^3 is independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and

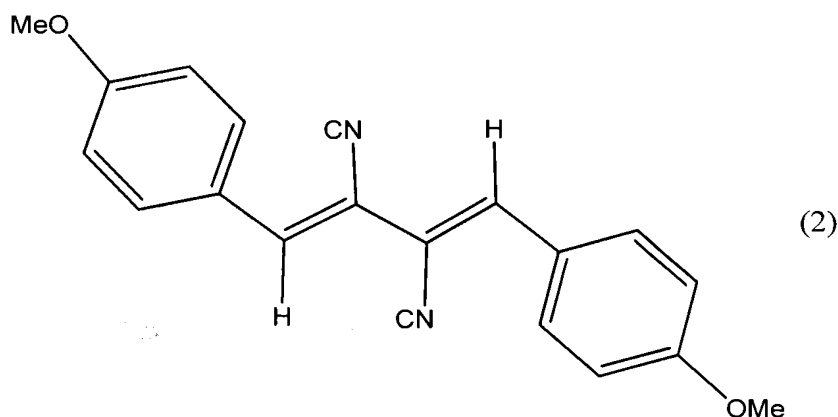
each of R^2 and R^4 is independently a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group or a methoxy group,

with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt

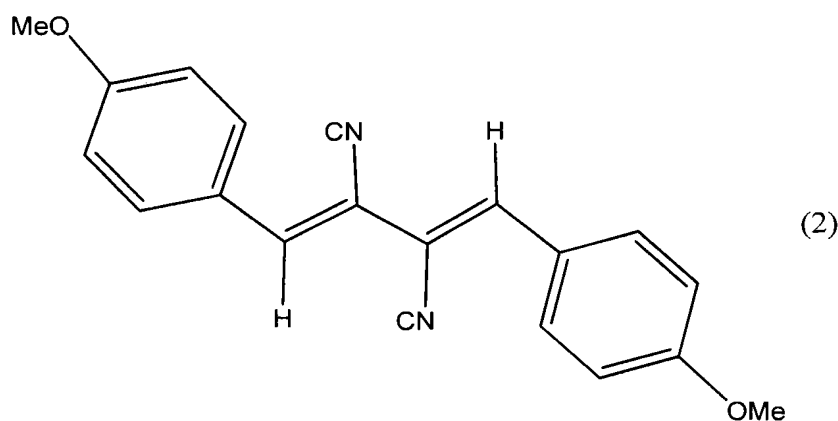


Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 27, wherein in the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human, R^2 is a hydrogen atom, with the

proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt



Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 28, wherein in the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human, R^2 is a hydrogen atom, with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt



Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 32, wherein in the isolated compound or its salt that is administered to the human, each of R^4 and R^a is independently a hydrogen atom or a methoxy group, with the proviso that the compound of formula (1) or its salt does not comprise a compound of formula (2) or its salt

